

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE

PUNJAB, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH, AND
CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received from the 9th to the 16th of April, 1870.

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POLITICAL (DOMESTIC).

THE *Jalwa-i-Tur* of the 21st February repeats with approval the suggestion of the editor of the *Delhi Gazette*, that the Legislative Council should frame rules for a registration of grain stores being made in each Collectorate, and remarks upon the need of their being properly built. The length of time for which these barns are allowed to remain closed, it is observed, not only imparts a poisonous effect to the corn, but corrupts the air within, both which evils have made no less havoc than famine itself.

The *Buddhi Vilas* of the 21st March, in referring to the famine in Mewar remarks, that it will be at an end so soon as the *satthi* crops have been reaped; but in bidding farewell to the scene of its depredations, it will leave a memorial behind it in the increase of crime, the severities of hunger having caused the people to relapse into their former vicious practice of cattle-stealing.

The *Akmal-ul-Akhbar* of the 6th April quotes an article which appeared in the *Urdoo Guide* relative to the Hindu, Christian, and Mahomedan holidays, prescribed by a Resolution of the High Court of Judicature in the Appellate Department. A comparison is drawn between the holidays allowed in the Government offices to these three sects, with a view to showing that the Mahomedans enjoy the fewest as compared with the Hindu and the Christian, and may even be said to be debarred



the privilege altogether, having to attend the offices and courts on the days of their most solemn festivals. The writer finds fault with the judicial authorities of these Provinces in applying to their offices the rule which holds good in the case of Calcutta, where the percentage of Mahomedans to the total number of officials hardly exceeds one or two; he thinks that even-handed justice has not been dealt out to all alike, and calls upon those concerned to take immediate measures for a redress of the grievance.

The *Dhaultpore Gazette* of the same date learns from a correspondent at Chunar that the young Rajah of Nepaul, who was imprisoned in the fort there, by the sentence of the High Court, has been released before the expiry of the term of imprisonment (one year).

The *Naiyir-i-Akbar* of the 7th April, referring to the orders of the Government of India to reduce expenditure on education in Bengal, notices the unwillingness of the Lieutenant-Governor to carry out the measure, and remarks that one of the reasons why His Honor intends to give up the service before the expiration of the usual period of office is the difference of opinion existing between him and the Supreme Government with regard to certain political measures.

The *Benares Akhbar* of the same date alludes to the disaffection caused among the people of Alwar by the Rajah's favouritism towards the son and son-in-law of his personal attendant Inayatullah Khan. These persons have taken upon themselves to usurp the estates of the Chiefs of the State, which has disgusted the people. The editor thinks that the Agent's return from tour at this crisis would prove salutary.

The *Rohilkhund Akhbar* of the 9th April relates on what is stated to be a reliable authority that an ill-feeling has arisen at Bareilly between the Hindus and the Musalmans owing to the Hindu festival of the Ram Naumi and the Muharram falling this year on the same day. The Musalmans were opposed



to the Ram Naumi procession passing through the city as usual. It is said that the Rani Sahiba, wife of the late Rajah Naubat Ram, who was the principal person in the ceremony, and had given out that she was going on a pilgrimage to Hurdwar, means in reality to wait upon His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to solicit his interference in the matter.

The editor hopes that this state of things will be brought to a settlement as had been done at Budaon, and remarks that on a former occasion when these festivals had occurred simultaneously, the district authorities had shown their fairness by causing a rope to be tied in the middle of the market-place for the *Taziyas* to pass on one side and the Ram Naumi procession on the other.

The same paper notices the prevalence of small-pox at Moradabad. It is stated that a great number of children fell victims to it. The salutary effects of vaccination were clearly manifested in the case of children on whom the operation had been performed, and who were for the most part not attacked by the sickness; the few that were not feeling its severity. The editor thinks that the lesson thus gained by experience will have weight with those who are now averse to having their children vaccinated.

#### POLITICAL (FOREIGN).

The *Akmal-ul-Akhbar* of the 6th April, quoting from the *Mofussilite* of the 31st March, mentions the arrival at the Government House, Calcutta, of an Envoy from His Highness the Atáliq Ghazí Yáqúb Khan, Chief of Yárqand. It is said that he was escorted from the place of encampment to the Government House by an Aide-de-Camp and the Under-Secretary to Government.

The interview of Sir Sálár Jang Bahadur with His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General on the 24th idem is likewise noticed in the same paper.

The *Dabdaba-i-Sikandaree* of the 21st March quotes from the *Englishman* a report that the Amir of Cabul has issued



orders for the old fashion of shoes to be replaced by English boots, which leads the *Delhi Gazette* to remark that peace is about to bid adieu to Cabul, and that a great revolution is likely soon to take place—an opinion in which the *Dabdada-i-Sikandaree* concurs.

The Amir is stated to have excited the odium of his people by taking to European habits and imbibing European sentiments. The result of this dislike has been that a party, headed by Sardár Abdur Rahmán Khan, is ripe for revolt. It is expected that an assault upon Cabul will be made in the Spring. The *Delhi Gazette* thinks that the British Government cannot stand neutral in the fray, but doubts which side it is likely to take. The writer concludes by remarking that since the Amir has hitherto used to such ill purpose the assistance rendered him by the British Government, it is now vain to expect that he can regain the confidence of the people, and that the better plan will be to select either of the two remaining sons of Dost Mohammad Khan, Aslam Khan, or Ahmad Khan, for the Ameership.

The *Gwalior Gazette* of the 3rd April gathers from the *Malwa Akhbar* that the Amir of Bokhara has hostile intentions against Afghanistan. It is stated that hostilities will commence ere long. The Chiefs of Badakhshan are reported to have applied to Amir Sher Ali Khan for aid, which he refused.

The *Karnámah Hind* of the 4th April states on the authority of the *Friend of India* that the Russians have withdrawn from Central Asia, the probable reason being a deficit in the Russian Treasury, which has compelled them to abandon their ambitious schemes. The reoccupation of the Samarkand Fort by the Bokhara troops is further noticed as an indication of the decline of Russian influence and the advance of British ascendancy. The editor of the *Karnámah* takes this occasion to remark that "the tongues of those who were loud in applauding



the Russians and promulgating news of the progress of their arms will now probably keep quiet for a time."

The *Akhbar-i-Alam* of the 7th April quotes from the *Shams-ul-Akhbar* of Lucknow that those who have faith in the Russians, and are looking to their progress in India, will be disappointed to learn that the Czar intends to restore Samarkand to the Amir of Bokhara, and to withdraw his troops from that quarter. This news has taken Christendom itself with surprise; it is said that a deficit in the Russian Treasury is the cause of their retrogression.

A correspondent of the *Naiyir-i-Akbar* of the same date contrasts the ancient and modern political features and prevailing usages of Cabul, and remarks *en passant* the fondness of the reigning Amir for imitating European fashions of dress, the *Begams* of the Seraglio having been made to wear dresses similar to those worn by European ladies.

The *Benares Akhbar* of the same date reports that the Czar of Russia is very ill. He is said to have been suffering from a hypochondriacal affection—a disease which he inherits from his forefathers. The editor wishes him well.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The *Jalwa-i-Tur* of the 21st February bestows commendation on the *Mirat-ul-Arus* (The Bride's Mirror), a prize book by Maulavi Nazir Ahmad, a copy of which has been presented by the Government, North-Western Provinces, to the *Jalwa-i-Tur* Library, as a model of plain, eloquent, and idiomatic Urdu style, and a work which, by the moral instruction and didactic pieces interspersed through it, as also by the examples it sets forth in the opposite characters of the two sisters, the heroines of the tale, supplies a want, and is well suited for female readers.

The *Dabdaba-i-Sikandaree* of the 28th March quotes the *Pioneer* to the effect that His Highness the Maharajah of



Jaipore has established 294 schools in his State, giving education to about 8,000 pupils. This fact is adduced as a proof that the Maharajah has liberal and enlightened views, and that he takes great interest in the well-being of his subjects.

The *Khair Khwah-i-Panjab* for the first week of April alludes to the reference made to the Government as to graduates of the University being allowed a chair in Durbar.

The *Jalwa-i-Túr* of the 7th April praises in high terms the manual skill of the inmates of the Alexandra Girls' Institution at Poona. The proceeds from sales of the articles made, together with a small sum received as prizes for work exhibited, are stated to come up to Rs. 25,000, while a good many things have still to be disposed of. These include an exquisite piece of needlework—the work of the Empress of the French, worth Rs. 20,000; it is said that the Empress of Austria and other royal personages of Europe are about to send in specimens of their work for the coming Fancy Fair to be held for the benefit of the Institution during the rainy season.

The *Lawrence Gazette* of the 6th April states, on the authority of the *Lucknow Times*, that the Law Class established at the Queen's College, Benares,\* has made great progress. The Professor, Mr. Thomas, teaches well, and the majority of the students take great pains.

The *Jalwa-i-Túr* of the 7th April, in an article headed "Controversy with regard to the Department of Public Instruction," quotes a remark of the *Friend of India* with reference to a communication from the Secretary of State to the Government of India enquiring what measures have been taken for the improvement of arts and sciences, and at what cost, since the assumption of the direct sway of India by Her Majesty. The *Friend* answers, "in the North-Western Provinces Sir William Muir has established a system of rewards for literary performances, and money has been thrown away in the patronage

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\* Another paper has Canning College (Lucknow).



of a few Native newspapers—beyond that what has been achieved?”

The *Jalwa-i-Tūr* observes that by the above remark the editor means to infer that both of these measures of the Government, North-Western Provinces, have been without useful result, and finds fault with him for his limited appreciation of all that has been and is being done to advance the cause of education.

The establishment of colleges, the grant of scholarships, the delivery of lectures and speeches in public durbars, the right conceded to graduates of receiving a chair at durbars, the encouragements given to travel in Europe, and to compete for the Civil Service Examination, &c., are cited as so many brilliant proofs in support of the truth of the assertion.

The same paper refers to the eloquent rejoinder of Maulavi Mahdi Ali, Tahsildar of Mirzapore, to Saiyid Ahmad Khan's address to his countrymen from England. The Maulavi's reply is described as full of genuine feeling and patriotism, and as coming home to the hearts of the people of India: it is also praised for the beauty of its language.

The *Akhbar-i-Alum* of the same date has an article headed “The Public Weal” in which the writer upholds and eulogises the present educational policy of the Government. He does not support the opinion which would throw the burden of popular education on the people; who, he remarks, unlike the people of Europe, have little or no natural taste for it, and in consequence grudge all expense that is incurred on its account; he therefore thinks that Government should continue its liberality.

The *Nujm-ul-Akhbar* of the 6th April refers to the meeting of the Local Educational Committee of Saharanpore at the Government Zillah School on the 25th of March last. Two resolutions are stated to have been arrived at, viz. (1), that in



every Tehsil a Committee be held monthly, with the object of promoting the cause of education; (2) that a monthly sum of Rs. 50 be assigned by the Municipal Committee for local scholarships to the Zillah School.

The *Rohilkund Akhbar* of the 9th April notes the grant of Rs. 100 sanctioned by the Government, North-Western Provinces, in aid of the female schools at Moradabad; a hope is expressed that at least an equal amount may be raised by local subscriptions.

It is also stated that a meeting of the Local Educational Committee was held at this place on the 23rd April\* (*sic*) to discuss points connected with female education. At this meeting it was resolved that two Normal Schools—one for Hindu and the other for Mahomedan women—be established and placed under the charge of Mistresses of each of the two religions, the services of the Christian Mistress being dispensed with. It was further resolved that the new Government grant-in-aid of Rs. 100 be thus distributed—*viz.*, Rs. 10 each for the three female schools now held at the houses of one Musalman and two Hindu gentlemen, Rs. 10 for each of the three Mahomedan Girls' Schools of long standing in the City, the remainder to be divided between contingencies and the expenses of conveyance for the pupils.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Jalwa-i-Túr* of the 21st February states on the authority of the *Times of India* that eight princes of the royal family of Mysore have left India for England, four to compete for the Civil Service Examination, and four to study for the bar. They are praised for their desire to seek their livelihood by respectable and well-paid Government employments, instead of depending, as hitherto, upon Government pensions for their support. Government is stated to have sanctioned Rs. 3,000 a piece for the expenses of their voyage to and from England.

The *Gwalior Gazette* of the 20th March announces the intention of Sir Sálár Jung Bahadur to start for England.

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\* March.



The *Buddhi Vilas* of the 21st March devotes a leader to the evil consequent on the practice of early marriage obtaining among the Hindus, viz., the widowhood of many women while yet young. The miseries and ignominious treatment which are the lot of young widows, and the hideous and unnatural crimes they are led to commit, are described in vivid colours, and the writer advocates the practice of a second marriage, with certain restrictions.

The *Dabdaba-i-Sikandaree* of the same date notices the publication in the *Home News* of an expression of thanks on the part of the people of England for the loyalty and hospitality shown by the Native Chiefs and Princes of India, to His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, at Calcutta, Burdwan, Benares, Agra, and Delhi. This is represented to have been the cause of much gratification to the English people as well as to Her Majesty.

The *Akmal-ul-Akhbar* of the 6th April states that the Private Secretary to the Governor-General has remitted a sum of Rs. 600 on the part of the Duke of Edinburgh to the Commissioner of Agra for distribution among the Mission Schools in that district.

The appropriation by the Rajah of Jam Khandi of a lakh of rupees for the construction of a pond and reservoir in the Prince's name, and the laying of the foundation stone of the Sailor's Home by the Prince at Bombay are also mentioned in the paper under review. The Gaekwar has offered two lakhs of rupees for the erection of the last-named edifice, which is designed to commemorate the Prince's visit to India.

The *Lawrence Gazette* of the same date cites from the *Indian Mirror* a statement that on the occasion of the late feast given to Sir Salar Jung by the Viceroy, European Officers of high rank, five Mahomedans, one Parsee, and one Hindu nobleman dined with His Excellency at the same table.

The *Malwa Akhbar* of the same date enumerates the gifts made by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to the Native Chiefs and Princes of Southern India.



The same paper speaks highly of the devotion and allegiance of the Gaekwar to Her Majesty, of which he has given indubitable proofs in sending for a life-size statue of Her Majesty from England at an enormous cost, and in bestowing a sum of two lacs of rupees for building the Sailor's Home, to perpetuate the memory of the visit to India of the Duke Her Majesty's son.

The *Naiyir-i-Akbar* of the 7th April gives the particulars and propectus of a newspaper which the *Anjuman-i-Panjab* has proposed to establish.

The same paper quotes the *Panjabi Akhbar* (Lahore), No. 11, which states on the authority of the *Meerut Gazette*, that Dr. Leitner has moved the *Anjuman-i-Panjab* to solicit the Lieutenant-Governor to issue a circular to the Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners of all divisions and districts within his jurisdiction directing them to appropriate a special room where persons desirous of calling on them may wait until they are admitted to an interview, and thereby avoid the inconvenience of having to pace to and fro in the verandah or the courtyard, waiting upon the pleasure of Chuprassees and bearers for the privilege of being supplied with a seat. The Doctor at the same time does not forget to advise Native gentlemen who visit European Officers to speak to the purpose and not to intrude upon their valuable time with irrelevant discourse; he also suggests that they should take a card with them containing simply their name, without any superfluous titles or forms of ceremony.

The same paper notes that an order is about to issue from Her Majesty's Government desiring European Officers to be cordial and conciliating in their intercourse with Hindustani gentlemen and nobles.

The same paper also states that a body of learned Pundits at Calcutta have affirmed the lawfulness of vaccination on the authority of the Shastras. A paper signed by these authorities



containing full proofs of the legality of the practice is about to be circulated throughout Bengal.

The *Jalwa-i-Túr* of the same date quotes a ludicrous suggestion from the correspondence of the *Delhi Gazette*, the gist of which is that instead of resorting to so many shifts and expedients to make up the deficit in the finances, the Government would do better to impose a tax on the fair, so that each may rate her beauty according to its degree of perfection and loveliness.

The *Jalwa-i-Túr* remarks on this that the fair will of course reconcile themselves to it and will cheerfully pay the tax, considering it to be a tithe bestowed in beauty's cause; but adds, that the income from a similar tax in England would be far more considerable.

The *Akhbar-i-Alum* of the same date quotes from the *Mofussilite* of the 29th ultimo, on the authority of the *Bombay Gazette*, a report that an assembly of Pundits from different parts of India was held at Bombay on the 20th idem, with a view to carry into effect the proposal for the remarriage of Hindu widows after the legality of the practice has been discussed and established on religious grounds. The editor approves of the plan in contemplation.

The *Jagat Samachar* of the same date learns from the *Urdoo Delhi Gazette* of the 12th March that one Pundit Harihar Das of Orissa, Head Pundit of the Sanscrit Department, Government School, Jaggannath, is about to undertake a voyage to England in company with the Joint Magistrate and Collector of that place.

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The following Vernacular newspapers have been examined in this report, viz. :—

| No. | NAME OF NEWSPAPER.               | WHERE PUBLISHED.  | DATE.       | WHEN RECEIVED. |
|-----|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------|
|     |                                  |                   | 1870.       | 1870.          |
| 1   | <i>Jalwa-i-Túr,</i> ...          | Meerut, ...       | Feby., 21st | May, 4th       |
| 2   | <i>Gwalior Gazette,</i> ...      | Gwalior, ...      | March, 20th | "              |
| 3   | <i>Dabdaba-i-Sekandaree,</i> ... | Rampore, ...      | " 21st      | "              |
| 4   | <i>Buddhi Bilas,</i> ...         | Meerut, ...       | " 21st      | "              |
| 5   | <i>Gwalior Gazette,</i> ...      | Gwalior, ...      | " 27th      | "              |
| 6   | <i>Dabdaba-i-Sekandaree,</i> ... | Rampore, ...      | " 28th      | "              |
| 7   | <i>Marwar Gazette,</i> ...       | Jodhpore, ...     | " 28th      | "              |
| 8   | <i>Malwa Akhbar,</i> ...         | Indore, ...       | " 30th      | "              |
| 9   | <i>Gwalior Gazette,</i> ...      | Gwalior, ...      | April, 3rd  | "              |
| 10  | <i>Karnama,</i> ...              | Lucknow, ...      | " 4th       | "              |
| 11  | <i>Oudh Akhbar,</i> ...          | Ditto, ...        | " 4th       | "              |
| 12  | <i>Khair Khwah Panjab,</i> ...   | Gujaranwalla, ... | 1st week    | "              |
| 13  | <i>Akmal-ul-Akhbar,</i> ...      | Delhi, ...        | " 6th       | "              |
| 14  | <i>Nujm-ul Akhbar,</i> ...       | Meerut, ...       | " 6th       | "              |
| 15  | <i>Lawrence Gazette,</i> ...     | Ditto, ...        | " 6th       | "              |
| 16  | <i>Dhaultpore Gazette,</i> ...   | Dhaultpore, ...   | " 6th       | "              |
| 17  | <i>Malwa Akhbar,</i> ...         | Indore, ...       | " 6th       | "              |
| 18  | <i>Naiyir-i-Akbar,</i> ...       | Bijnour, ...      | " 7th       | "              |
| 19  | <i>Jalwa-i-Túr,</i> ...          | Meerut, ...       | " 7th       | "              |
| 20  | <i>Moofid-ul-Anam,</i> ...       | Futtehgurh, ...   | " 7th       | "              |
| 21  | <i>Benares Akhbar,</i> ...       | Benares, ...      | " 7th       | "              |
| 22  | <i>Jagat Samachar,</i> ...       | Meerut, ...       | " 7th       | "              |
| 23  | <i>Akhbar-i-Alum,</i> ...        | Ditto, ...        | " 7th       | "              |
| 24  | <i>Meerut Gazette,</i> ...       | Ditto, ...        | " 9th       | "              |
| 25  | <i>Anjuman-i-Hind,</i> ...       | Lucknow, ...      | " 9th       | "              |
| 26  | <i>Rohilkhund Akhbar,</i> ...    | Moradabad, ...    | " 9th       | "              |

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*Offg. Government Reporter on the Native*

ALLAHABAD :  
The 11th May, 1870. }

*Press of Upper India.*